

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 37-61 have been added. Therefore, claims 37-61 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled. Therefore, the claim rejections of claims 5 and 6 are moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 and 31-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over EPO Patent No. 398647 A2 issued to Beckham et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,590 issued to Imai et al. Claims 7-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,681,392 issued to Henry et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,824 issued to Goodman. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 37-61 have been added.

Claim 37 recites a method for loading files for operating a hardware device detected by an operating system of a computing system comprising the following:

- requesting user input for a location of one or more files for operating the hardware device;
- accessing a root directory of the location provided by the user to find an installer and one or more driver files for the hardware device;
- launching the installer for the hardware device;
- loading one or more of the driver files for the hardware device;
- identifying the operating system;

modifying a registry of the operating system to direct the operating system to a location of one or more additional files for operating the hardware device;
redetecting the hardware device;
preventing the operating system from rerequesting user input for a location of one or more files to operate the hardware device;
accessing the one or more additional files for operating the hardware device using the modified registry; and
loading the one or more additional files for operating the hardware device.

Claim 49 recites similar limitations.

Beckham discloses installing software such as a multitasking operating system having a base operating system and a plurality of separately installable components on an information processing system. The information processing system accesses a custom install diskette to determine which of the components are to be installed thereon. A component install program determines a machine type associated with the information processing system. Only the components, features, and options specified on the custom install diskette and associated with the type of information processing system are installed. See col. 1, line 45 to col. 2, line 13.

Beckham does not disclose a method for loading files for operating a hardware device detected by an operating system comprising accessing a root directory of the user-inputted location to find an installer and one or more driver files for the hardware device, modifying a registry of the operating system to direct the operating system to a location of one or more additional files for operating the hardware device, redetecting the hardware device, preventing the operating system from rerequesting user input for a location of one or more files to operate the hardware device, and accessing the one or more additional files using the modified registry. These limitations are recited in claims 37 and 49. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 37 and 49 are patentable over Beckham.

Imai discloses an installation system that allows for automatic installation of an operating system software program on computer terminals. After the PC is switched on, an installation floppy disk is inserted in the drive and started up. The installation information relevant to the ID

of the PC is retrieved from an installation server. Based on the retrieved information, the software information stored in the storage device of the installation server is read to obtain the operating system software program and information for setting up the environment. The operation system is then installed. See Abstract.

Imai does not disclose a method for loading files for operating a hardware device detected by an operating system comprising accessing a root directory of the user-inputted location to find an installer and one or more driver files for the hardware device, modifying a registry of the operating system to direct the operating system to a location of one or more additional files for operating the hardware device, redetecting the hardware device, preventing the operating system from rerequesting user input for a location of one or more files to operate the hardware device, and accessing the one or more additional files using the modified registry. Therefore, Imai does not cure the deficiencies of Beckham. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 37 and 49 are patentable over Imai and Beckham.

Henry discloses a system for remotely installing peripheral software. The software to be installed on a remote system is run on a system administrator's workstation connected to the same network. See col. 2, lines 30-34.

Henry does not disclose a method for loading files for operating a hardware device detected by an operating system comprising accessing a root directory of the location provided by the user to find an installer and one or more driver files for the hardware device, modifying a registry of the operating system to direct the operating system to a location of one or more additional files for operating the hardware device, redetecting the hardware device, preventing the operating system from rerequesting user input for a location of one or more files to operate the hardware device, and accessing the one or more additional files using the modified registry.

Therefore, Henry does not cure the deficiencies of Imai and Beckham. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 37 and 49 are patentable over Henry, Imai, and Beckham.

Goodman discloses a method for operating a peripheral device for automatic installation that includes coupling the peripheral device to a computer, sending a first device ID from the peripheral device to the computer, emulating a device of a type determined by the first device ID, sending a second device ID from the peripheral device to the computer, and operating the peripheral device by interacting with the driver on the computer. See Abstract.

Goodman does not disclose a method for loading files for operating a hardware device detected by an operating system comprising accessing a root directory of the user-inputted location to find an installer and one or more driver files for the hardware device, modifying a registry of the operating system to direct the operating system to a location of one or more additional files for operating the hardware device, redetecting the hardware device, preventing the operating system from rerequesting user input for a location of one or more files to operate the hardware device, and accessing the one or more additional files using the modified registry. Therefore, Goodman does not cure the deficiencies of Henry, Imai, and Beckham. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 37 and 49 are patentable over Goodman, Henry, Imai, and Beckham.

Claims 38-48 and 50-61 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 38-48 and 50-61 are patentable over Goodman, Henry, Imai, and Beckham for at least the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

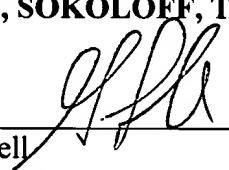
In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicants submit that claims 37-61 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Date: _____

12/14/00

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP



Greg Caldwell
Reg. No. 39,926

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 439-8778